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| Acronym     | <b>VARCLIREFOR</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Full Title  | <b>Increasing climate resilience of Dutch Forests: spatial and temporal variability</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Partner(s)  | <b>Univesiteit Utrecht, the Netherlands (<i>coordinator</i>)</b><br><b>Staatsbosbeheer, the Netherlands</b><br><b>Stichting Nationaal Park Utrechtse Heuvelrug, the Netherlands</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Grant Theme | Establishing Climate-Smart Forestry and forest restoration pilots in Europe                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Start Date  | May 2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Duration    | 18 months                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Description | <p>To better understand relations between environmental conditions and tree growth and survival, VARCLIREFOR measures survival and growth of naturally regenerated and planted tree saplings in new field trials. These trials record the experimental setup, including planting schemes of saplings, and measure local environmental conditions (e.g., light availability), climate (rainfall and temperature) and soil properties.</p> <p>The project will monitor sapling survival and growth in the new trials up to 18 months and beyond. In addition, the project takes stock of past growth of individual trees in 781 existing field trials, measured since 1994 and representing 3120 ha of forest. In these existing trials soil properties are measured, local climatic data collected, and these new data combined with the existing tree growth dataset for further statistical analysis.</p> <p>The existing field trials include various forest types (monocultures, natural forests, coniferous and deciduous forests) and as such long-term tree growth can be calculated as dependent on forest type, soil and climate variability to infer the impacts of these environmental conditions on long-term carbon stocks and sequestration.</p> |



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